DOCKET SECTION

BEFORE THE POSTAL RATE COMMISSION REGERVED WASHINGTON, D.C. 20268 0001 4 32 91 199

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 1997

Docket No. R97-1

RESPONSE OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO MOTION OF PERIODICALS INTERVENORS TO AMEND HEARING SCHEDULE (March 12, 1998)

On March 11, 1998, the Periodicals Intervenors filed a motion requesting that Postal Service rebuttal witness Degen be rescheduled from Friday, March 20, to Thursday, March 19, to accommodate the schedule of the intervenor attorney selected to conduct cross-examination. The Postal Service would prefer that the Commission adhere to original schedule, under which Mr. Degen would appear as the third witness on March 20, following witnesses Cohen and Stralberg. If, however, the Presiding Officer is otherwise inclined to accommodate this request, the Postal Service does not object, subject to two important caveats.

First, if witness Degen's appearance is moved, the Postal Service would object to any day other than Thursday, March 19. Second, because other postal witnesses currently scheduled for March 19th have already begun to arrange their busy schedules around their scheduled appearances, the Postal Service would object to Mr. Degen's insertion anywhere on March 19th except at the end of the list of

witnesses for that day.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

By its attorneys:

Daniel J. Foucheaux, Jr. Chief Counsel, Ratemaking

Eric P. Koetting

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon all participants of record in this proceeding in accordance with section 12 of the Rules of Practice.

Eric P. Koetting

475 L'Enfant Plaza West, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20260–1137 (202) 268–2992; Fax –5402 March 12, 1998